(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The Food (Health) Authorities of the States/U.Ts. who are responsible for implementation of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act in their State/U.T. have been requested to keep a strict vigil on quality of milk specially with regard to contamination of milk. Central Government is, however, continuously monitoring the situation.

(b) and (c) No such instances have come to the notice of this Ministry.

(d) and (e) Sale of milk or milk products containing a substance not found in milk, except as provided in the PFA Rules, 1955 is prohibited. Any violation of the provision of the Act/Rules attracts legal action.

Poor quality cornea of donated eyes

1327. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that maximum percentage of donated eyes are discarded due to poor quality of cornea; and

(b) if so, whether Government is planning to enforce a law for removal of eyes while performing postmortem of accidental cases to obtain quality cornea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Most of the donated eyes are utilized for corneal transplantation for optical purpose in needy population. The cornea, which could not be utilized for corneal transplantation for optical purpose due to poor quality, is utilized for therapeutic graft, lamellar graft, research and training activities etc.

There is no proposal to enforce a law for removal of eyes while performing postmortem of accidental cases to obtain quality cornea.

Loopholes in law pertaining to abortion

†1328. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are major loopholes in the present law pertaining to abortion; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government to remove these loopholes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The present law pertaining to abortion or the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act in India which came into existence in 1971 aims to regulate and ensure safe, affordable, accessible and acceptable abortion services to women who need to terminate a pregnancy upto 20 weeks of gestation on therapeutic, eugenic, humanitarian or social grounds within a legal framework; and as such, the Act leaves little room for any major loopholes.

Clinical Establishment Bill, 2007

1329. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(a) the status of the proposed legislation, namely, the Clinical Establishment (Registration and Regulation) Bill, 2007;

(b) how long will it take to get it passed; and

(c) what are the measures available to tackle the problems of inadequate and inappropriate treatment, medical malpractices and negligence besides inadequate infrastructural facilities, till then?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has already introduced the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Bill, 2007 in the Lok Sabha on 30th August 2007. The draft amendment Bill incorporating the amendments on the basis of the recommendations made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee has been sent by this Ministry to the Ministry of Law & Justice for vetting.

The Bill is aimed to determine the standards for clinical establishments, classify the clinical establishments into different categories, compile, maintain and update a national register of clinical establishments and undertake periodic review for effective implementation of the provisions.

World Health Day celebrations

1330.SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the new innovations/interventions attempted by Government on the occasion of World Health Day celebrated on 7 April, 2008 through National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and National Urban Health Mission(NUHM) programmes;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken by this Ministry to ensure that health care services like "ASHA" are accessible, affordable to a common man, especially poor, women and children residing in rural areas of the country; and

(c) the number of new sub-centres, primary health centres, community health centres and district hospitals opened during 2007-08, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Government has launched National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) on 12th April 2005 for the period 2005-2012 to provide accessible, affordable and quality health services to the poorest households in remotest rural regions of the country.

The thrust of NRHM is on establishing a fully functional, community owned, decentralized health delivery system. NRHM facilitates simultaneous action on collateral determinants of health like water, sanitation, education, nutrition, etc. Under NRHM Institutional integration has been carried out in the health sector and performance is benchmarked against Indian Public Health Standards. The NRHM seeks to compensate various gaps through enhanced funding, local untied and flexible funds and overall capacity building in the health system. NRHM has been operationalised in all the States in a decentralised manner on basis of Annual State Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) which are appraised/approved by the national Programme Coordination Committee at GoI level.